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2/3/03**Via Facsimile: (703) 872-9326**9D-DW-19324  
PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Prada, et al.

Serial No.: 09/682,255

Filed: August 9, 2001

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS  
FOR SECURING A  
DISHWASHER DOOR

Art Unit: 3677

Examiner: Lugo, Carlos

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**Hon Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**Remarks**

The Office Action dated December 16, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the following response has been made in consequence thereof:

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-10 and 13-22 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 20 and 22 are rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,912,891 to Mercer et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Mercer") is respectfully traversed.

Mercer describes a front-loading type dishwasher 10 having a door 12. A handle member 22 is mounted in a recessed channel 20 of the door and is adapted to be manually moved horizontally to the right and left to latch and unlatch the door. The handle is attached to a horizontal slide 34 by a fastener 36. Mounted adjacent and behind the slide and extending vertically is an elongated bolt member 60. The bolt is mounted for vertical reciprocation on its opposite edge portions against parallel tracks 62, 64. When the slide is moved horizontally between operative positions shown in Figures. 2 and 3 of Mercer, a fastener 66 and a roller 68 are moved from one end of an elongated opening 52 to the other.